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# David Niethamer, clarinet, and Joanne Kong, piano

Department of Music, University of Richmond

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David Niethamer, clarinet

Joanne Kong, piano



FEBRUARY 9, 2004, 7:30 PM  
CAMP CONCERT HALL  
BOOKER HALL OF MUSIC

... PROGAM ...

Five Bagatelles for Clarinet and Piano

Gerald Finzi

Prelude - 1:30

(1901-1956)

Romance - ? - 9:20

Carol - 9:30 - 11:22

Forlana - 11:33 - 14:22

Fughetta 14:28 - 16:40

Fantasy (...those harbor lights) (1983)

Joan Tower

20:01 - 34:45

(b. 1938)

... INTERMISSION ...

Fragments of Bar harbor

Mindy Christensen

Largo

(b. 1981)

I. Sunrise on Cadillac

II. Lost on Rockefeller's Carriage Trails

III. The Precipice

Sonata no. 1 in F minor, op. 120, no. 1

Johannes Brahms

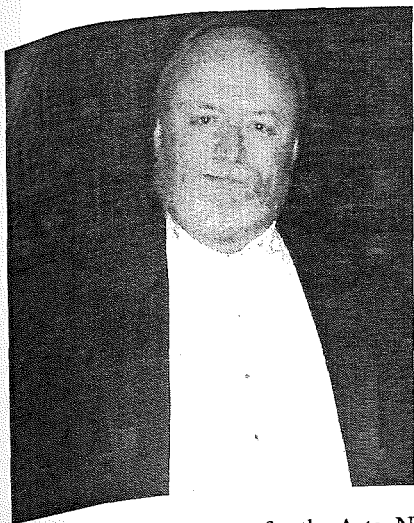
Allegro appassionato

(1833-1897)

Andante un poco Adagio

Allegretto grazioso

Vivace



David Niethamer teaches clarinet and Chamber Music at the University of Richmond. He also performs with the Richmond Chamber Players, where he was Artistic Director from 1994-97. He has also performed with the National Gallery Orchestra in Washington, D.C., and with the Virginia Symphony. From 1979 to 2002, Niethamer was the Principal Clarinetist of the Richmond Symphony. During that tenure, he appeared thirteen times as soloist with the orchestra, most recently for the world premiere of Allan Blank's Concerto for Clarinet and String Orchestra, commissioned for Niethamer with funding from the Virginia Commission for the Arts and

the National Endowment for the Arts. Niethamer won critical acclaim and national recognition for the American premiere performances of Andre Casanova's Ballade for Clarinet and String Orchestra during his first season with the orchestra.

Throughout his career, Niethamer has maintained a busy schedule of chamber music, recitals and teaching. He has performed at the Albemarle Festival with the Monticello Trio and the Brentano Quartet, with the Kandinsky Trio, the Composers Quartet, and the Lenox String Quartet. From 1982 until 1992, Niethamer was the Clarinetist and Artistic Director of the Roxbury Chamber Players.

Niethamer has performed at the University of Oklahoma Clarinet Symposium, the 1990 ClarinetFest International in Quebec, at the 1988 joint conference of the International Clarinet Society and ClariNetwork International in Richmond, Virginia, and at ClarFest '86 in Towson, Maryland. An interest in the work of living composers has led to collaborations with Karel Husa, Gunther Schuller, and Ned Rorem. In Virginia, Niethamer has worked closely with Allan Blank, Judith Shatin, and Joel Suben. Niethamer's recordings are on the Opus One, MMC, and Elan labels.

Niethamer's teaching career has included two years as Visiting Lecturer of Clarinet and Chamber Music at Ithaca College. He has conducted Master Classes and workshops at Oberlin College, Furman University, University of Vermont, Tennessee Tech, and the University of Alabama/Huntsville.

For the past seven years, Niethamer has served on the board of Virginians for the Arts, a statewide organization encouraging funding for the Virginia Commission for the Arts.



Recognized as an artist of exceptional versatility, harpsichordist and pianist, *Joanne Kong* has received critical praise for her "great finesse and flexibility" (*The Washington Post*), "utmost keyboard sensitivity and variety of tone" (*Richmond Times-Dispatch*), "remarkable technical ability" (*The Oregonian*), and "superb artistry" (*San Antonio Express-News*).

She has performed to critical acclaim at numerous venues including the Los Angeles and Oregon Bach Festivals, Abbey Bach Festival, Texas Bach Collegium, Houston Harpsichord Recital Series, Memphis Chamber Music Society, Stotsenberg Concert Series, San Antonio Festival, Los Angeles Monday

Evening Concert Series, Virginia Waterfront International Festival of the Arts, the Royal Netherlands Embassy, Columbia University, Harvard University, and orchestral performances under William McGlaughlin, Myung-Whun Chung, Alberto Bolet, Samuel Baron, and George Manahan. A gifted collaborator, she has performed with some of the world's finest musicians including the Shanghai String Quartet and Eugenia Zukerman, and has been master class pianist for James Buswell, Timothy Eddy, Robert Bloom, David Shifrin, Harvey Pittel, Gwendolyn Koldofsky, Arleen Augér, Phyllis Bryn-Julson, Roberta Alexander, Roberta Peters, and Gian Carlo Menotti. As a specialist in the music of Bach, she has received recognition for her interpretations of the complete Well-Tempered Clavier and Goldberg Variations. Her critically-acclaimed 2-CD set of the Goldberg Variations on harpsichord, and Diabelli Variations on piano, is available on the BRIOSO label.

A native of Southern California, Kong is the recipient of national and international honors including performance fellowships from the American Academy of the Arts in Europe and the Bach Aria Festival, designation as a Laureate in the 1983 National Beethoven Foundation Fellowship Auditions, three Ruth Lorraine Close Fellowships, and the Irl Allison Grand Prize in the 1985 International Piano Recording Competition. In addition to concertizing, her performances have been broadcast over numerous radio stations including National Public Radio, WQXR in New York and WFMT in Chicago. She is in frequent demand as a piano, harpsichord, vocal and chamber coach, and has been recognized for her exceptional work with gifted young musicians. Kong is currently the director of the accompanying and chamber music programs at the University of Richmond. A graduate of the University of Southern California and University of Oregon, she has studied with Joanna Hodges, Malcolm Hamilton and Victor Steinhardt, and performed in the master classes of Leon Fleisher and Lorin Hollander.